THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) A total number of 4869 and 1005 new telephone connections from the Waiting List were approved for release during the period for Shakti Nagar and Rajouri Garden Telephone Exchanges respectively.

(b) No, Sir. Most of the OBs have been issued.

In case of Shakti Nagar Exchange 4869 connections have been released and OBs have been issued for 4471. The balance OBs could not be issued for want of completion of departmental formalities.

In case of Rajouri Garden Exchange, 1005 connections have been released out of which OBs have been issued for 983 cases.

The remaining OBs could not be issued at Shakti Nagar and Rajouri Garden exchanges because the prospective subscribers have not completed requisite departmental formalities. As such there is no fault on the part of the officials.

(c) Most of the telephone connections released and for whom OBs have been issued for Shakti Nagar and Rajouri Garden Exchanges, they are likely to be provided by the end of December, 1991. For balance cases where it is not possible to provide them for want of underground cable pairs action is under way and these are likely to be provided by March 1992.

For balance cases where the OBs could not be issued action will be taken to release the OBs and provide these connections within a period of one month after they complete requisite departmental formalities subject to the availability of underground cable pairs.

3358. [*Transferred to the 19th December, 1991*]

Direct dialling telephones facility at District Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh

3359. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have connected all the District Headquarters in the State of Madhya Pradesh with direct dialling telephone facilities with other major cities, particularly the Metropolitan Cities in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, by when Government propose to provide this facility to all the urban areas in Madhya Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Out of the 45 district Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh 36 have already been connected with the STD facility.

Remaining 9 district Headquarters i.e. Betul, Mandla, Sidhi, Chattarpur, Narsinghpur, Panna, Rajgarh, Shahjapur & Tikamgarh will be connected with STD facility by March 1992.

(c) Already 50 stations of Madhya Pradesh have been provided with the STD facility. This facility to other urban areas in Madhya Pradesh would be provided progressively during the 8th Plan period (1992—97) subject to the availability of resources.

देश में डाकघरों की संख्या

3360. **श्री शांति त्यागी :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय कितने डाकघर कार्य कर रहे हैं और एक डाकघर औसतन कितने क्षेत्र एवं कितनी जनसंख्या को अपनी सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराता है;

(ख) क्या 2000 से अधिक जनसंख्या वाले सभी गांवों में डाकघर स्थापित कर दिए गए हैं;

(ग) पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों तथा पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में डाक सेवाओं की रूप रेखा क्या है; और